

Regular Session 2009

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 102

BY REPRESENTATIVE BALDONE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Department of Health and Hospitals, bureau of healthcare financing, to study the use of living wills among Medicaid recipients and report to the House and Senate committees on health and welfare no later than February 1, 2010.

WHEREAS, many Louisiana citizens are living longer, healthier, and more productive lives; and

WHEREAS, as medical science advances, families increasingly have to make difficult decisions about life support with little or no direction from their loved ones; and

WHEREAS, Medicaid recipients are some of Louisiana's poorest citizens and do not have access to the legal and estate planning resources as do other citizens; and

WHEREAS, Medicaid recipients deserve to have choices when it comes to advanced directives and living wills; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has rules and regulations regarding advance directives for Medicaid recipients in hospitals and nursing homes.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Health and Hospitals to study the use of living wills among Medicaid recipients, including but not limited to studying ways to increase the use of living wills among Medicaid recipients, and to report its findings to the House and Senate committees on health and welfare no later than February 1, 2010.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department should examine whether or not filling out living wills should be made a voluntary requirement for Medicaid applicants or persons being admitted into inpatient facilities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Department of Health and Hospitals, bureau of healthcare financing.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE